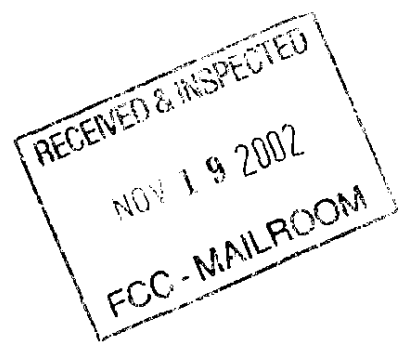


November 13, 2002

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554



Re: Proceeding 02-278, Public Comment

Dear Sir or Madam:

As a citizen of ~~the~~ United States of America and a resident of the State of Indiana I am taking this opportunity to file my comments in support of the current State of Indiana's telephone privacy law. I attempted to file these comments electronically but your site was down. Hopefully, my comments will end up in the correct department because I feel strongly about this issue. While I strongly cherish my freedom to communicate my opinion I have not availed myself of this opportunity in the past. However, I feel that this is a very important issue which deserves my time and effort.

I have been made aware that the FCC *is* considering a rules change that could impact the Indiana telephone privacy law. **As** a citizen of the USA and a resident of the State of Indiana, as well as a beneficiary of the Indiana telephone privacy law on both of my telephone lines, I would strongly encourage you **NOT** to force any changes to this Indiana law. My junk telephone calls and junk messages left on my voice mail have been reduced dramatically due to Indiana's diligent enforcement of this law. This law has provided a welcomed improvement to my time at home by allowing me more freedom to utilize my telephone service without it being turned into a commercial billboard by whomever **so** chooses. I am no longer summoned to my ringing telephone just to fend off persistent, rude, and unwanted telephone solicitors. I pay for my telephone service and feel that these unsolicited calls are truly an invasion of my privacy. Indiana has come to my rescue with the advent of the Indiana telephone privacy law and I feel that it would be a travesty to have it impacted in any way. **As** an example of what could result I need only **look** within my own family. My brother resides in the State of Ohio and just recently had to change his home telephone number requiring him to go through an administrative nightmare. When I inquired about any protection provided by the State of Ohio his response was that none existed and that they needed some type of protection similar to what I receive from the State of Indiana. He said that would have prevented him from having to change his telephone number which he has **possessed** for **a number of years** just in his effort to evade these unsolicited calls. These calls are a waste of my time and are many times rude invasions into my personal home life. They come day and night, sometimes even after I have retired to my bed and I am sound asleep. Please do not strip away the welcomed protection that Indiana has afforded me. If anything, the FCC should be seeking **to** replicate the Indiana law nationwide to the benefit of the citizens of the United States. Thank You for your consideration.

I can be reached at the address listed below to provide any further comments:

William E. Charleston
2325 E. Jefferson Blvd.
South Bend, Indiana 46615-2609
(574) 233-1559
(574) 288-1123
wecharleston@msn.com

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will E. Charleston", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William E. Charleston

Cc: Office of the Indiana Attorney General